Moderate Gradient, Cold, Small River

Macrogroup: Small River

Description:
Cold, moderately fast-moving, small rivers at high elevations or in areas of substantial cold groundwater inflow. These small rivers of the northern region drain watersheds up to 200 sq.mi and have an average bankfull width of 69 feet. The moderately fast-moving waters are dominated by a well-defined pattern of alternating pools, riffles, and runs. Their substrate is dominated by sand, gravel, and cobble, and they often have high water clarity and are well oxygenated. These moderate gradient rivers exhibit moderate to low sinuosity with moderately narrow valleys and adjacent riverside upland communities. Cold water temperatures in these rivers means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of this fish community. Additional variation in the biological community is expected in acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota.

Similar Habitat Types:
These moderate gradient small rivers are transitional types and often exhibit some characteristics of both the higher and lower gradient small rivers. Cold moderate gradient small rivers typically flow into moderate or low gradient larger cold and cool rivers in areas of less topography.

Places to Visit this Habitat:
Nulhegan River, Brighton State Park | VT Old Stream, Machias River Watershed - Asc | ME Dead Diamond River, Second College Grant | NH East Branch Sacandaga River, Siamese Ponds | NY Middle Branch Oswegatchie River, Frank E Jadwin Memorial State Forest | NY Otter Creek, Independence River | NY

State Distribution: ME, NH, NY, VT

Total Habitat (mi): 2,352
% Conserved: 23.8 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Habitat %</th>
<th>Miles of Habitat</th>
<th>Acres GAP 1 - 2</th>
<th>Acres GAP 3</th>
<th>Total Acres Unsecured</th>
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<td>99</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1:100k NHD+ (USGS 2006), >= 1 sq.mi drainage area
This map is based on a model and has had little field-checking. Contact your State Natural Heritage Ecologist or State Fish Game Agency for more information about this habitat.
**Associated Fish:**

**Species of Concern (G1 - G4):**
Fishes: none
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, eastern pearlshell
See Appendix 2 for scientific names

**Crosswalk to State Names:**